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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

June 10, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE & FIRST-CLASS MAIL

The Honorable Hector V. Barreto
Administrator
The U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20415

Re: Outstanding Responses to Committee Requests

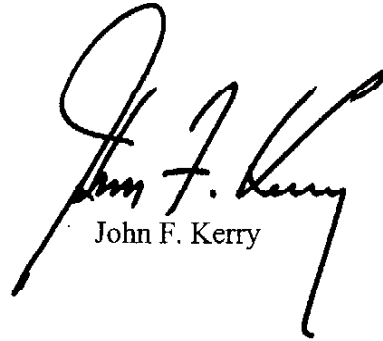
Dear Mr. Administrator:

On June 11, 2001, I made a request to the then-acting Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA), John Whitmore, for information regarding the history of resources available to the SBA's Office of Technology to run the Agency's Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs and related initiatives. Mr. Whitmore provided this information to me in the form of a two-page chart. On February 3, 2003, on my behalf, my staff requested that this chart be updated to include more recent data. However, more than four months later, despite numerous e-mail reminders, we have yet to receive that information. In order to facilitate accurate updating of the chart, my staff has faxed a copy of the original chart to your office on three separate occasions.

Two other Agency replies are seriously late. The first is to my letter of March 10, 2003 regarding the National Women's Business Council. We should have received a reply on March 17, 2003. Instead, what we received was late and incomplete. On April 1, 2003, your staff was given a list of the outstanding information. The second is to the letter I co-authored with Senator Snowe regarding the 7(a) STAR program, which was due on April 1, 2003. With the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship votes on the SBA Reauthorization and other bills only weeks away, it is vital that I receive these responses so that I can make informed decisions.

Please ensure that this information reaches my staff by close of business on Wednesday, June 18, 2003. If your staff has any questions, please have them contact Ms. Kevin Wheeler of my office at 224-3722.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Kerry". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then loops back down.

John F. Kerry